

HUNGERFORD TOWN COUNCIL

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Minutes of the **extraordinary meeting of the Highways and Transport Committee** held on Monday 27th October 2014 at 7.35pm in the Corn Exchange complex, Hungerford.

Present: Cllrs Brookman, Wilson, Crane, Thompson, Podger, Farrell, Leach and Hudson

- 1. Apologies for absence.** Cllr Benneyworth. Harding
- 2. Declarations of interest.** None
- 3. Minutes of meeting held 20th October 2014.** Cllr Crane proposed the minutes as a true record, seconded by Cllr Wilson, 2 abstentions, rest in favour.
- 4. To propose Hungerford Town Council's response to Call to Retain Bedwyn, Hungerford and Kintbury's Direct Hourly Trains To London.** During discussion the following comments and questions were raised: Must ensure there are the same number of trains in 2019 as there are today; once the changes are introduced, the service may well get worse; the DfT commissioned Arup to do a study of train use which showed strong evidence to support the case of electrification being extended to Bedwyn.; apparently, the Secretary of State's view is that Berkshire has had enough investment in Reading; if diesel trains are maintained there will not be enough room at Paddington Station, if electrification goes ahead; could dual fuel trains be used? Will it be a set back for the station regeneration project? Hungerford has good passenger numbers and a good service should be provided.

The committee will send ideas to Cllr Brookman, who will write on behalf of HTC.

Meeting closed 8pm